# scan/ may '25

SHANKILL COMMUNITY AREA NEWSLETTER

## Shankill Football Club Lifting The Bertie Messitt Cup

## CONTACT scan

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** If you have any comments on any article or wish to contact us our details are:


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# community

## EDITORIAL

The lovely month of May is here and we hope that there will be some warm and sunny weather for us all to enjoy as there was in mid April. However, whatever the weather SCAN is here to entertain and inform you as always. This wouldn't be possible without the many contributors who, without fail, send us interesting articles, poems and stories. So we wish to acknowledge the hard work and dedication that goes into producing every piece you read in SCAN. These contributors have other lives too with work and family commitments in addition to their involvement in community, sporting organisations, schools and other activity in Shankill. Thanks to all of them for helping to keep our readers aware of what's going on in the area now and in the future.

## LISTENING EAR - SUPPORT NETWORK FOR SEPARATED AND DIVORCED PEOPLE

The Network is open to persons of any faith and none. Meetings take place on the 2nd Tuesday of every month from 7.30 - 9p.m. in the Resource Centre.

You are welcome to contact **087 3646067** or email ***listeningear14@gmail.com*** and a supportive compassionate person in the network will respond and together you can discuss how we can be of help to you.

Complete confidentiality is guaranteed and everyone will be warm and friendly.

## AA MEETINGS SHANKILL

Alcoholics Anonymous hosts meetings in Crinken Church Parish Hall every Monday at 8.30 p.m. and in St. Anne's Community Centre (beside St. Anne's Church) every Sunday at 8.30 pm. Doors open around 8.15 pm.

A welcome awaits you.

## BETHANY BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

*St. Anne's Resource Centre Shankill*

If you are grieving the loss of someone special or have had a loss of any kind and would like to talk to someone, Bethany Bereavement offer free support to adults, with sympathy and compassion in confidence.

We have a drop-in service on the first Friday of each month at 10.30 am or if you prefer, we can meet with you in person. Just call the **01 282 2704** to arrange.

## SHANKILL DAY CARE CENTRE BOOK SALE

The next book sale will be held on Saturday 3rd May and the following one on Saturday June 7th. Venue Shankill Day Care Centre, Lower Road, Shankill.

Donations of books in good condition are welcome on the day (limited to two bags per person). All proceeds go to support the Centre's programmes and services.

## SVP SHANKILL CONFERENCE

***Do you need our help?***
You can call us directly at 087-696 2785. Alternately, call **01 855 0022** or go online at ***www.svp.ie.***

## SHANKILL CLASSICAL MUSIC CLUB

Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at the Shankill Seniors Centre, Lower Road, Shankill. The May meeting will be held on Wednesday, 9th, June meeting on the 11th. Visitors and new members are always welcome. Meetings commence at 7.45 p.m. For further information either ring or text John O' Hagan at 087 2109175.

## SHANKILL HEALTH CENTRE TALKS

**Venue:** Shankill Health Centre, Lower Road, Shankill, D18 DW08
**Time:** 1:00pm - 2:00pm

| | |
|---|---|
| **6th May** | Mental Health in Younger Adults - Supports |
| **3rd June** | Support for Carers |
| **1st July** | Pre Planning - Decision Making when we get older |

## RATHMICHAEL RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Rathmichael Residents Association is seeking new members. Due to retirements and residents downsizing out of the area we are inviting new members to join our voluntary team on Rathmichael Residents Association. It is a long standing and well respected Residents Association with articles of association and yearly audited accounts.

Please ring our chairman at **085 713 5591** or email ***rathmichaelresidentsassociation@gmail.com*** to help make Rathmichael a lovely place to live & flourish for all our residents.

## SHANKILL DAY CARE CENTRE

**Assistance Needed with Community Project**

Are you interested in books? If so and have two consecutive hours to spare weekly, on an intermittent basis, you might like to join our Book Sale team in Shankill Daycare Centre. For further information please email ***sscbooksale@gmail.com***.

Our book sale takes place on the first Saturday of every month from 10:00 - 1:00pm. We need two people to move furniture and bookcases from 3:30 - 5:00pm on the preceding Friday and again after the sale on the Saturday from 1 - 2.30pm.

For further information please email ***sscbooksale@gmail.com.***

## Bethany Support Group

**Bethany Bereavement in St. Anne's Shankill, a community of compassion.**

The Bethany Bereavement Support Group is a nationwide movement dedicated to helping those who are grieving, find comfort and healing in a safe and supportive space. Named after the biblical village of Bethany, where Jesus found solace among friends, the movement was founded on the principle of providing compassionate, non-judgemental support for those dealing with loss. Across Ireland, Bethany volunteers often called "listeners" offer their time freely to be a caring presence for those struggling with bereavement. Bethany believes that their experience of grief increases their sensitivity to another person's suffering.

In St. Anne's Parish, Shankill, Bethany took root in 2002 when two local women, Ann Hunt and Rita Mc Cauley trained to become Bethany listeners. In total six people trained altogether, Ann and Rita still remain. With the support of the parish, they established the group in the Parish Centre, offering a haven for those in need of comfort and understanding. Their kindness, vision, and unwavering dedication soon inspired others to join them, and over the past 23 years, many volunteers have undergone training to expand the reach of this vital service in Shankill.

Ann and Rita have been the heart and soul of Bethany in St Anne's. Their belief in the importance of compassionate listening has touched the lives of so many in the community. With quiet strength and endless generosity, they have created a space where people can find solace during their most difficult times in their lives. Their leadership has shaped Bethany into more than just a bereavement service – it is a place of genuine care, warmth and human connection.

Bethany in St. Anne's has provided unwavering support to the community for over two decades. A free drop-in session takes place on the first Friday of each month, offering an open and welcoming space for anyone struggling with loss. The group also offers an individual listening service, a five-week structured healing course, and in previous years offered home visits for those who need extra care and reassurance. The work is entirely voluntary, supported by the generosity of the parish and the dedication of those volunteers who believe in the healing power of listening.

At the heart of Bethany Bereavement, is the simple, yet profound act of being present for others. It is not counselling, but rather a safe and confidential space where people can share their grief, unburden their hearts and begin to heal. Grief is deeply personal, but through the warmth and empathy of Bethany listeners, no one has to face it alone.

Today the Shankill team includes Martin, Andrea, Caroline, and Valerie who continue to be guided by Ann and Rita. Ann remains deeply committed and involved, serving as the Bethany chairperson and contributing at the General Executive Committee (GEC) level, as well as being part of the training team that prepares new listeners. Rita's enduring kindness and wisdom continue to guide and inspire the group. Their combined efforts have ensured that Bethany Bereavement in St. Anne's remains a beacon of hope and support.

Bethany Bereavement is more than just a service, it is a testament to the power of human connection, community and compassion. Through quiet listening, unwavering kindness and a loving presence, the volunteers of St. Anne's continue to offer a space where healing can begin, ensuring that no one has to walk the path of grief alone. This is a free service to all adults in the community and the Bethany team is always looking for new volunteers and local support to continue their vital work.

To find out more please contact St. Annes parish or *bethanybereavement1982@gmail.com* phone **087 990 5299**.

## Bus Corridor Plan

Dear fellow residents,

Like others living in Shankill I received a flyer recently from Shankill Community Action about An Bord Pleanála's decision to approve the Bus Corridor plan.

The flyer requests donations from Shankill residents in order to fight the decision, which apparently can be done only through a judicial review. According to the flyer this would cost up to €50,000, or €50-100 per donor.

Before proceeding with this step can we find out in a properly-designed independent survey what Shankill residents think of the Bus Corridor plan? If all parties to the plan can hold off until the survey results are in, surely that should settle the matter once and for all?

Personally I am in broad agreement with the position taken by Shankill Community Action on the Bus Corridor plan. However I am also a democrat and I will accept whatever a majority of Shankill residents want.

So can we find out before going any further?

**James P. Bruce**

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# Rathmichael May Fair

Saturday 10th May
11am - 2pm

Children's Games & Fun Activities

Flower Arranging Competition

Children's Art Competition

Bake Sale

Refreshments Throughout The Day

Fresh Farm Eggs

At Rathmichael Parish Church

# FLOWER ARRANGING COMPETITION

## FOR NOVICE FLORISTS

At Rathmichael May Fair

Saturday 10th May 2025

For Beginners & Improvers

**ENTRIES**

Please Email:
rathmichaelflowers@gmail.com
For an Application Form and Rules of Entry.

Flower Arrangements to be left at Rathmichael Church for Judging on Thursday 8th May

**ENTRY FEE**

€10 PER ENTRY

**COMPETITIONS**

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Rathmichaal Parish Church
Ferndale Road, Shankill D18 NK45


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# CLG na Seanchille

**Shankill's History Makers**
Congratulations to our U15 Camogie team on winning Feile 2025. A Fantastic achievement, and the first team from Shankill to ever win a Feile. The girls have a clean sweep now, having won the league, shield, championship and now Feile all in the last 2 years. Their coaches, Brendan Ellis, Deirdre Spillane, Fergal Crowley, Peadar Bruton and Orla Cavanagh are all very porud of what the girls have achieved. Superb Girls, well done!!

**U8 Girls**
And we're off!! Our U8 girls had their first ever GoGames fixture this morning. Skills, teamwork & smiles all on display. What a morning!! If you have a daughter that would like to join the U8 girls, contact Coach Mags on 0879610839.

## Club Lotto Scan the QR Code

**Club Lotto**
**The club Lotto funds are used to provide more and better facilities for our players and members in Stonebridge Road. The Lotto helped to build the new Skills wall and astro surface which is getting tremendous use. We have many new projects and plans which will all need finance. To play the lotto simply scan the QR code**

**Academy**
Our juvenile Academy caters for both boys and girls from 4 years to 6 years. Children born in 2019 and 2020 are currently being introduced to Gaelic games. The Academy is on Saturday from 10.00am to 11.00am in Stonebridge Road. Qualified coaches are always in attendance, all equipment is supplied free of charge. The first four weeks are free as children get to know each other, learn new skills, and enjoy all the fun and games in safe environment.

**Dublin U14 Development Squad**
Well done to Darragh Boothman and Michael Dwyer who have made the official Dublin U14 Development squad. Super achievement for the club and players in a very competitive group. Well done to their coaches and parents and teammates. Daragh is the clubs first duel county player. Both lads attended St. Anne's Primary School in Shankill and both came out of our Academy. We are very proud of our lads. Well done.

## Shankill FC Champions League in Memory of Bertie Messitt

- Starting Monday 30th June to Sunday 13th July
- Open to Girls born in 2010 to 2021 & Boys born in 2011 to 2021
- Register *@www.Shankillfc.ie* or by scanning the QR Code
- Open to members and non-members

# Shankill Bowling Club

*by Jack Byrne P.R.O.*

## NEW BEGINNINGS

Heading into its thirty first year Shankill's bowling club on Quinn's Rd has seen the introduction of new seating around the perimeter of the rinks, and a sheltered area also with seating. In the congregation area in front of the clubhouse there is also picnic table type seating which everyone agrees is a big asset to the club. Plans to introduce new planting arrangements around the perimeter in the months to come are also on the agenda. Praise has also been forthcoming for the introduction of a monthly gathering of ex club members (pavilion/retired) for coffee & chat with some treats and of course Carmel's delicious apple pie is on the menu. The gathering currently takes place on the last Friday of the month.

We must acknowledge the efforts of our indoor bowling section who were narrowly defeated in their gallant attempt to win Division 2 of the Wicklow East Coast Shortmat Bowling League. They were beaten by just two points by Gorey. However, our shortmat bowlers should take much comfort in the progress made in this very competitive league in what is only their second season. Shankill bowling club believes it won't be long until these honours will come their way. To this end more of the current membership are encouraged to get playing this very skilful game. We are sure it's an extra skill no bowler will regret, so get your name down for the coming season.

Following a great campaign in the Winter league by the club where honours were snatched away from us in the Division 3 league (Saturday), by a small margin, following a playoff, and preceded by a reasonable summer season last year which had seen our Vets 2 claim second place in their league, all is now leading to a great enthusiasm for the team selection for the coming summer season. The club will be competing in leagues in Division 2 (Saturday), Division 2 (Wednesday) and Vets 2, 3, 4, which will account for seventy plus members playing bowls for Shankill in the coming season. The inhouse games are due to start shortly and with the list for "would be" competitors on the club notice board it appears there is a busy time ahead for the Shankill bowling club.

The club gladly extends a welcome to prospective members at the open weekend, scheduled to take place on Saturday 3rd May from 2.30- 4.30 p.m. and Sunday 4th of May from 1-30 to 4-30pm. So drop by and give it a try, you won't be disappointed.


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## ST JOHN OF GOD

### St John of God Dementia Care Setting A New Standard For Care With Opening of New Café

***'Buddy's Place' at St Joseph's Shankill is redefining dementia support in Ireland***

St John of God Dementia Care at St Joseph's Shankill has announced the opening of Buddy's Place, an innovative community café concept that aims to challenge traditional perceptions of dementia support. Minister of State for Older People, Kieran O'Donnell T.D. performed the official opening of the new café initiative.

*Broadcaster Miriam O'Callagan, Noelle Thorpe and Minister for Older People and Housing Kieran O'Donnell, TD*

Buddy's Place represents one of the first community initiatives of its kind in Ireland, part operated by people living with dementia alongside local volunteers. This project hopes to redefine dementia care by providing those in our care with a meaningful sense of purpose and actively involving them in community activities.

Buddy's Place is a testament to the capabilities and dignity of individuals living with dementia. By empowering people living with dementia supported by volunteers to assist in the operation and management of the café, St John of God Dementia Care at St Joseph's Shankill is challenging existing stigmas and demonstrating a truly patient-centred approach to care.

***Buddy's place is open every Thursday at St Joseph's from 10am - 12 midday – all welcome.***

Speaking at the opening of Buddy's Place, Minister for Older People and Housing Kieran O'Donnell, T.D., said: "I am delighted to support the opening of Buddy's Place. This initiative is an example of how we can transform Ireland's approach to dementia care. By creating meaningful opportunities for engagement and participation, we are not just supporting individuals, we are changing societal perceptions. Buddy's Place is helping to realise the vision of the HSE's Dementia Understand Together campaign. The campaign is supported by Government and is both building understanding of dementia and inspiring people to take action to support people with dementia and break down stigma in Irish communities."

Damien O'Dowd, Chief Executive of St John of God Hospital, said at the opening of Buddy's Place:

St Joseph's
St John of God
Dementia Care
An Evening of Song
in aid of Dementia Care at St Joseph's
Scan for tickets
St Annes Parish Church, Shankill
Thursday 15th of May
19.30
Tickets €15 / person
Bella Voce, MD Frank Kelly & guests
St Joseph's Dementia Choir; Leader Joan Dempsey
Ballinteer Male Voice Choir; MD Thomas Kehoe
Inver Singers; MD Frank Kelly
St. John of God Dementia Care
St Joseph's Shankill, Crinken Lane, Shankill, D18 TY00
01 2823000 / siobhan.grant@sjog.ie
RCN: 20069858

*"This initiative by St Joseph's goes beyond traditional care models. Buddy's Place is about creating opportunities and fostering independence whilst providing people with a greater sense of purpose and belonging. The café reflects our pioneering approach to care by extending our hospitality outside of the walls of our home and our unwavering commitment to uphold people's dignity, demonstrating that people living with dementia can remain active members of our community."*

The project has received support from leading Irish food and beverage brands who are committed to raising awareness and promoting discussion about dementia care and support, including 3Fe Coffee, Broderick's Brothers Baked Goods, Oatier, and Bean & Goose. The partnership with these brands underscores the community's commitment to inclusive and supportive approaches to dementia care.

The launch of Buddy's Place represents a significant step towards creating a more understanding and inclusive society where individuals living with dementia are recognised and understood.

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LATEST NEWS

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SUNDAY ROASTS 12-4pm
01

*NEW* EARLY BIRD SUMMER MENU
MID-WEEK FROM MAY
02

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# AN CIORCAL COMHRÁ, SEANCHILL

## Scéal na Cásca - *Seán Ó'Fearghail*

Nuair a bhí mise ag fás aníos sa chathair, bhí traidisiún an-láidir againn, cuairt a thabhairt ar sheacht séipéal ar Déardaoin Bheannaithe. Is cuimhin liom mo sheanmháthair ag tógáil mo dhearthár, mo dheirfiúr agus mé fein chuig na séipéil go léir sna Liberties. Séard ba chúis leis na cuairteanna sin ná athléiriú a dhéanamh ar thuras Íosa ar oíche a ghabhála. Bhíomar ag bogadh idir áiteanna éagsúla, Gáirdín Getsemene agus títhe na nArdsagart inas measc.

Is cuimhin liom go mbíodh na dealbha clúdaithe ins na séipéil agus go mbímís ag guí ag an taobh-altóir, an altóir a gcuirtí an Naomh Shaicrimint i ndiaidh Aifrinn ar Dhéardaoin Bheannaithe. B'shin mar a thosaíomar ceiliúradh trí lá na Cásca. Is cuid de thraidisiún na Cásca in Éirinn iad, na huimheacha Cásca mar shiombail ar bheatha nua agus ar aiséirí, agus ag léiriú creideamh na gCríostaí in Aiséirí Íosa Críost ar Dhomhnach Cásca.

Fadó ní raibh uibheacha ceadaithe i rith an Charghais agus mar sin, choinnigh siad iad, bhruith siad iad agus mhaisigh le hithe mar cheiliúradh Domhnach Cásca. Le h-imeacht ama tháinig na h-uibheacha seacláide a thaitníonn chomh mór sin linn. Anseo in Éirinn, gheobhaidh páistí na céadta ubh Cásca ón a muintir fhéin agus ón a gcairde.

Gníomhaíocht bhreá is ea Fiach na nUbh. Folaíonn teaghlaigh uibheacha timpeall an ghairdín agus téann na leanaí ar a dtóir. Is breá le leanaí Coinín na Cásca. Cé gur tháinig an traidisiún sin ón Ghearmáin, tá glactha go forleathan leis in Éirinn anois. Creidtear go dtiocfaidh Coinín na Cásca agus ar nós Daidí na Nollag, go dtabharfaidh sé féiríní do na páistí maithe.

Siombail iontach dóchais agus athnuachana is ea éirí na gréine maidin Chásca. Eagraíonn a lán paróistí agus pobail ceiliúradh gréine an mhaidin sin. Tagann siad le chéile ag breacadh an lae. Má tá an aimsir maith, bíonn said amuigh faoin aer, ar bharr cnoic, ag siúl cois trá nó bailithe le chéile in áiteanna stairiúla. Ceann de ha háiteanna is cáiliúla ar fad is ea Cnoc na Sláine in gContae na Mí. De réir an fhinscéil, las Pádraig Tine na Cásca, ag cur in aghaidh an Rí Phágánaigh, Laoghaire, agus ag fógairt teacht na Críostaíochta go hÉirinn. I mbliana arís, beidh daoine ag bailiú le chéile ag Ianaigh Luaidhe na Cásca a fheiceáil.

**Na Gluaiseanna Gaeilge agus Béarla:** ***athléiriú*** / re-enactment; ***ar oíche a ghabhála*** / on the night of his arrest; ***dealbh*** / fíor duine nó ainmhí agus í déanta amach as cloch nó adhmad nó miotal; ***aiséirí*** / éirí arís, éirí ó mhairbh, athbheochan; ní raibh uibheacha ***ceadaithe*** / bhí cosc orthu; ***bhruith siad iad*** / d'fhiuch nó bheirigh siad iad; ***Gníomhaíocht*** bhreá is ea ***Fiach na nUbh*** / Easter Egg Hunts; ***Folaigh*** nó cuir i bhfolach; ***finscéal*** / seanscéal (legend); / ***Tine na Cásca*** / The Paschal Fire; ***Ianaigh Luaidhe*** / Leadmines. (***Baile Mhic Fheorais*** / Ballycorus).

**(www.teanglann.ie; www.focloir.ie; www.potafocal.com; wwwlogainm.ie)*
***(Áit chruinnithe: Seomra an Ghairdín i dTeach Tábhairne Uí Bhrádaigh gach Aoine ar a haon déag).*

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Opening Times

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FREE PARKING

ASK the Expert

# FINANCE CORNER

***I am concerned about the effects of the recent market volatility on my investments and on my pension. I am happy to invest for the long-term but am I right to panic when I see the value of my investments fluctuating?***

Naturally, you would like to make a profit on your pension and other investments. Common investment sense would say that the best way of doing this is to invest to suit your risk profile and investment time horizon, ignore market noise and diversify your portfolio across asset classes with low correlations. However, in volatile market conditions, like today's, many of you may be fearful, losing sight of your long-term objectives and getting out of the market when it is falling. As a result, you may be realising losses and damaging your long-term wealth.

Time, not timing is the most important thing to consider when investing. Of course, all investors would like to sell at the top, just before the market turns down and then get back into the market at the bottom, just before the recovery begins. However, getting this timing exactly right is virtually impossible, even for seasoned investors. Over every market cycle there will be positive and negative days. The chart below demonstrates that missing even a few of the best days in the market can lead to significant wealth destruction.

S&P 500 - Growth of €10,000 since 1988 & effect of missing the best days
€ 417,990
€ 264,003
€ 141,226
€ 86,034
€ 44,705
Invested for entire period
Missed best 5 days
Missed best 15 days
Missed best 25 days
Missed best 40 days

Investing for the long-term is the best strategy for generating wealth. At times when markets turn down it is important to keep a cool head, think about the long term and talk with your Financial Broker about the right investment strategy for you.

---

***Warning:*** *Past performance is not a reliable guide to future performance.*
***Warning****: The value of your investment may go down as well as up.*
***Warning:*** *If you invest in these funds you may lose some or all of the money you invest.*
***Warning:*** *These funds may be affected by changes in currency exchange rates.*

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# Local History Society Lectures

*by James Scannell*

**Mount Merrion Historical Society**
Frank Cogan will present ***'Judge 'Long Jack' Doherty of Seamount (St. Helen's) - Nemesis of O'Connell'*** at 8 p.m. on Thursday May 1st in the Fitzwilliam Rooms, Mount Merrion Community Centre, Mount Merrion, Co. Dublin.
Admission is €5/Students €2.

**Medal Society of Ireland**
A ***'Medals Militaria and Collectables Fair'*** will take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday May 3rd in the Knox Memorial Hall, Monkstown Village, Co. Dublin. All are welcome - Admission is €2 for members and €4 for non-members.

**Killiney Historical Society**
Des Burke-Kennedy will present ***'Dalkey WW2 Coast Watchers and EIRE'*** at 8 p.m. on Tuesday May 6th in the Druid's Chair Pub upstairs lounge, Killiney Hill Road, Rocheshill, Killiney, Co. Dublin.
All are welcome – admission is €5.

**The Edward Worth Library**
Dr. Jason McElligott will present ***'Rialto Buildings –the place and the people in 1929'*** at 3 p.m. on Wednesday May 7th in Dr. Steeven's Hospital, Dublin 8. Admission is free but booking is essential – email: ***info@edwardworthlibrary.ie***.

**Clontarf Historical Society**
Julie Brooks and Elizabeth Mullins, UCD Archives Department, will present ***'The Vernon Collection of Papers'*** at 7.30 p.m. on Monday May 12th in St. John's Pastoral Centre, Clontarf Road, Clontarf, Dublin 3. All are welcome - admission is €5.

**Bray Cualann Historical Society**
Brian White will present ***'On the Buses'*** at 8 p.m. on Thursday May 15th in The Royal Hotel, Main Street, Bray, Co. Wicklow. All are welcome – admission is €8 for non-members.

**Foxrock Local History Club**
Padraig Laffan will give the Short Talk on ***'Iveagh Trust Dublin Baths and Bathhouses'*** followed by Patricia O'Reilly with the Long Talk on ***'James Tissot's muse Kathleen Newton'*** at 8 p.m. on Tuesday May 20th in the Foxrock Parish Pastoral Centre, Foxrock, Co. Dublin.
All are welcome - admission is €5.

**Ballsbridge, Donnybrook and Sandymount Historical Society**
Cormac Moore will recall ***'Lemon's Sweet Factory'*** at 1 p.m. on Wednesday May 21st in Pembroke Library, Anglesea Road, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4. All are welcome – admission is free but booking required – call 01-2228450 or email: ***pembrokelibrary@dublincity.ie***.

**Dublin City Council Heritage Office**
Eoin DeBhairduin will present ***'Challenging the Narrative: Reclaiming Traveller History in Ireland's National Collections'*** at 6 p.m. on Wednesday May 21st in the Oak Room, The Mansion House, Dublin 2. Admission is free but booking required via Eventbrite.

**Dun Laoghaire Borough Historical Society**
James Brady will present ***'6th Battalion – South County Dublin and the War of Independence'*** at 8 p.m. on Wednesday May 21st in the Royal Marine Hotel, Marine Road, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin. All are welcome - admission is €5. Free hotel parking is available for those attending this lecture.

**Rathmines, Ranelagh & Rathgar Historical Society**
Ged Walsh will present ***'Marie De Bizien Du Lézard': The Enigmatic Nun of Rathgar'*** at 8 p.m. on Thursday May 22nd in Rathmines Town Hall, Rathmines Road, Dublin 6. Members free / visitors €5 - Swan Car Park Evening Rate: €4 from 7 p.m. to Midnight.

**Clondalkin Historical Society**
Liz Gillis will present ***'The first decade of the Free State'*** at 8 p.m on Monday May 26th in Áras Chrónáin – Irish Cultural Centre, Watery Lane, Clondalkin, Co. Dublin. All are welcome – admission is €5.

**The Irish Railway Record Society**
Mark Merrigan will present ***'Irish Railway Miscellany - video, audio, and readings - A Multimedia presentation'*** at 7.30 p.m. on Thursday May 29th in the Society's Dublin Hueston station premises. Strictly members and their guests only.

## Shankill – Looking Back

Success at the May 1925 Feis Ceoil in Dublin
Cello players Miss Hilda Wallis, and Miss Dorothy Stores, both from Dorney Court won the Elsner Cup. In singing Mr. H. Gill Wallace, Dorney Court, won the Plunkett Green Cup, was runner-up from the O'Mara Cup, and was highly commended in the competition for the Gervase Elwes Cup.

## Publications

Journal of the Irish Railway Record Society, February 2025, No. 216, Hon. Editor Tim Moriarty, published by the Irish Railway Record Society.

Articles featured in the latest issue of the include 'Fáilte – Salvete – Welcome' by the Hon. Editor Tim Moriarty, 'Translink Business Update and Belfast Central Station' by Ian Campbell, 'The Pre & Post Covid IRRS' by the Hon. Editor. 'Luck of the Draw – The Architecture Drawings of the Great Northern Railway (Ireland) in the IRRS Archive' by Siobhan Osgood, 'The Inchicore Locomotive Staff Fines Book, 1889-1910' by N.E. Gamble, 'Publications' which looks at the reprint of the 1970s book 'Dublin's Buses'. 'The Holly Bough 2024', 'Ireland's Eye Christmas Annual 2024', and 'Ireland's Own – January 31st 2025' issue, 'Observations and Comments', 'Tàilte Tours', 'Society News', 'The New Irish Rail Timetable – October 21st 2024' by Barry Carse, 'The "American Tramcar" Mystery' by Clifton Flewitt, 'The Mallow Railway Shootings of 1921 - Effects on British Policy in Ireland' by Peter Rigney, 'Irish Railway News', and 'Meeting Programmes' for Dublin, Munster, and London. Those wishing to join the Irish Railway Record Society can do so via the Society's website www.irrs.ie.

## Shankill & Ballybrack

**Community First Responders**

*Registered Charity Number: 20200526*

The first quarter of 2025 has gone by, and our volunteer responders continue to work hard attending calls in our community. In March 2025, we attended a record high number of 40 calls for the first time. With more volunteers covering the morning as well as on holidays, we were able to respond to 50% of all in-scope calls received for the month of March. A special appreciation goes to our volunteer Patrick Malone for his dedication and unwavering commitment.

Our training work continues both for the public as well as for our volunteers, where in March we trained a total of 34 individuals in our community, bringing our year-to-date total to 267.

For our volunteers training nights, they benefited from practicing on our newest advanced airway manikin thanks to Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council Community Grant for Minor Equipment that made this possible.

Our heartfelt gratitude goes out to everyone who voted for us in the Blue Token Community Fund by Tesco. All funds are used to restock used equipment, maintain current PADs in proper functioning condition, install new ones and provide community training.

**Calling all owners of Automated External Defibrillators (AED's)**

Is your AED registered with the National Ambulance Service? If not, you are reducing the opportunity to assist someone in serious need of help.

In the event someone phones for an ambulance because of a cardiac-related incident, that person is directed to the nearest available registered AED (subject to opening hours and access arrangements). This is why we are urging all AED owners to ensure their AEDs are registered.

We are aware of almost 30 AEDs within our community that are currently not registered. To register your AED, please use the following link to complete a short form: ***https://becomeacfr.ie/aed/***. Alternatively, please contact us at and we will be happy to assist you with this process.

For the latest updates, visit our website www.shankillcfr.ie; follow us on Facebook "Shankill & Ballybrack CFR," and/or our Instagram ***@shankillballybrackcfr***. For any inquiries, please send an email to ***info@shankillcfr.ie.***

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# Shankill TidyTowns — Glanbhaile Seanchill

## Seanchill Flúirseach

In recent weeks, Shankill TidyTowns volunteers have been busy on Shanganagh Road, creating and planting small plots of beauty.

## CALL TO PARTICIPATE

Dear residents of Shankill

You are invited to send us pictures of your pet(s) for an open-air poster exhibition in shops and businesses across Shankill, this coming month of May.

Please send us::

- A picture of pet at home with pet looking at camera
- Name of pet and short description of pet personality
- Name of human companion

**Send your pictures to Chris Daly at shankillmatters@gmail.com**

## *For A BusConnects that Keeps Shankill Beautiful!*

**Shankill TidyTowns is facilitating the campaign to raise funds to finance a Judicial Review of An Bord Pleanala's approval of the Shankill section of the National Transport Authority's proposed BusConnects Core Bus Corridor to Bray. Fundraising is going well and the JR has been submitted but more funds may be needed to win. You can still make a difference!**

**To make a donation, or use this link: or scan this QR code:**

www.idonate.ie/cause/ShankillCommunityAction1

**Alternatively, donations may be made by:**

- Bank transfer to the account of Shankill Tidy Towns with AIB Cornelscourt:
  **IBAN: IE48 AIBK 9333 9207 4230 21**
  Please reference any bank transfers "**SCA**"
- Cheque payable to " **Shankill Tidy Towns**" posted to Shankill Tidy Towns, Shankill Business Centre, Station Road, Shankill D18 N1N2

SuperValu TidyTowns

*email: shankillmatters@gmail.com*

Shankill TidyTowns

# BusConnects - Visualise This!

The National Transport Authority's Busconnects Plan proposes a 4-lane highway for most of the way from Loughlinstown Roundabout to Bray North. Their objective is to improve bus commuter travel time by 6-7 minutes on the entire route from Dublin City to Bray, with saving of only 2-3 minutes between Loughlinstown and Wilford Roundabouts.

Most Shankill residents seem unaware of what will happen but it appears, looking at the detailed maps of the BusConnects Bray scheme from Loughlinstown Roundabout to Wilford Roundabout, that the following will occur:

- Entering Shankill from Loughlinstown Roundabout, a large section of trees and stone wall on the right-hand side of Dublin Road will be removed up to Stonebridge Road to accommodate 2 bus lanes. The cycle lanes will be eliminated. The corner of Stonebridge Road will also be taken, slicing off a section of Rathmichael School grounds.
- On the left-hand side, extensive tree, hedgerow, and stone wall removal will start before the Stonebridge Road junction, continuing past St Anne's Church to the roundabout.
- The roundabout will be removed, restructuring Shanganagh Road as a traffic signal T-junction onto Dublin Road. All Corbawn estates will be accessed via the junction at Beechfield Manor, instead of the roundabout, which is currently reasonably free-flowing. Corbawn Lane will be an exit-only conduit onto Shanganagh Road via traffic lights, removing the Lidl complex paved pedestrian entrance area.
- The original plan for a 4-lane highway over the bridge and through the village was challenged and removed, but leaving a bottleneck, which negates the desired free flow.
- There will be no cycle lane between Loughlinstown Roundabout and Stonebridge Road, nor between the top of Corbawn Lane and Shanganagh Park. A short 2-way cycle lane will run from Stonebridge Rd junction along St Anne's Church grounds, as far as the new junction, only recommencing at Shanganagh Park, running inside park and graveyard boundaries, before joining with the main route again at Crinken Church.
- There will be no road widening between the top of Corbawn Lane and the entrance to Olcovar. Quinn's Road Roundabout will be replaced by a traffic signal junction. On the right-hand side, all trees, hedgerows and stone walls from the entrance to Olcovar, past Crinken Lane to just before Allies River Road, will be removed to facilitate widening, retaining one large tree.
- At the new Shanganagh Castle development, the widening will be facilitated by slicing into Shanganagh Park, pushing the cycle lane inside the children's playground areas, past its entrance gate. The removal of trees will continue on the right, from Shanganagh Marble & Stone Centre to Woodbrook Downs.
- Further removal of trees, hedgerows and stonewalls will occur at the entrance to Woodbrook Avenue development on the left side of the route as far as Wilford roundabout, which will be replaced by a traffic signal T-junction.

This expensive, time-consuming, disruptive restructuring is planned to reduce bus journeys by 2-3 minutes from Loughlinstown roundabout to Wilford roundabout. It will greatly damage Shankill aesthetically and environmentally, without providing the improved bus connectivity service promised to commuters. It doesn't benefit the people of Shankill, commuters from Bray, or cyclists, as there is no continuity of bus or cycle lanes possible.

Ref: https://brayscheme.ie/wp-content/uploads/sites/11/2023/07/05.-Landscaping-General-Arrangement.pdf

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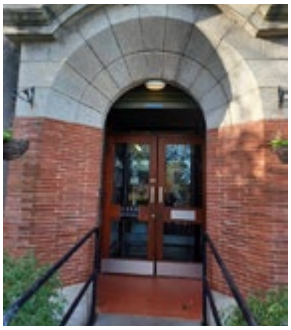
# SHANKILL LIBRARY

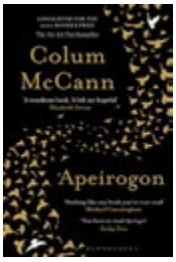


**Regular Sessions (Drop-in, no need to book)**
For parents and children

**Baby and Toddler group**
Monday's 10.30am to 11.45am
(0-3 years)

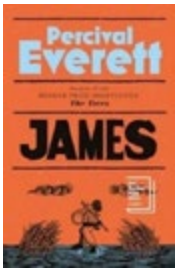
**Interactive Storytime**
Wednesday's 3.00pm - 3.30 pm
(3+ years)

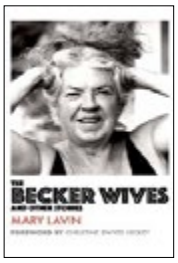
**BOOK CLUBS**




▶ Our First Tuesday Evening Book Club meets on ***Tues 6th May at 6pm*** to discuss ***"Apeirogon"*** by Colum McCann.

Our First Friday Book Club meets on ***Friday 9th May at 11am*** to discuss ***"James"*** by Percival Everett. ◀




▶ **SHANKILL LIBRARY CLASSIC IRISH BOOK CLUB**
Would you like to read & discuss timeless works of Irish literature in English?
Here in Shankill Library, we spend the first Thursday of the month talking about the cream of old Irish writers and their works in English. We will be discussing The Becker Wives and Other Stories by Mary Lavin at 7.00PM on May 1st. Copies of the book are available to collect in the library all during this month.

Contact: ***shankilllib@dlrcoco.ie***, (01)2047224 or pop into the library for further information.

**CRAFT CIRCLE**
***We run a regular informal crafting circle every Wednesday at 10.30am. Bring along your stitching or knitting project and meet a lively friendly group.***

**GARDENING TALK**
Gardening for Biodiversity talk is given by Aoife Munn on Tuesday 20th May at 6pm.

Low Maintenance Gardening for Biodiversity - Discover how to have a low maintenance garden that is teeming with wildlife and beautiful to behold. Spend less time gardening and more time enjoying your wonderful outdoor space this year. Free biodiversity friendly seeds for all who attend.

All Welcome, no booking required.

**CHAIR YOGA WITH SALLY**
Thursday 5th June @ 2.30pm

Join yoga teacher, acupuncturist and shiatsu practitioner Sally Dunne for some Mindful Chair Yoga, a gentle and easy way to gain the benefits of yoga while seated. Many of the traditional yoga poses can be adapted on the chair, so as to move the body through its full range of movement. Open to all and suitable for every level, this class is an ideal way to build flexibility and stamina, while helping to calm the mind and de-stress.

To book, email ***shankilllib@dlrcoco.ie*** or Tel (01) 204 7224

**More information**
Keep up to date on DLR library events and services
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Facebook: ***https://www.facebook.com/dlrlibraries***
Twitter: ***@DLR_Libraries***
Instagram: ***@libraries.dlr***

**SHANKILL LIBRARY OPENING HOURS**
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***Closed bank holiday weekends***

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| TUES, THURS | 1:15pm - 8pm |
| **Open Friday or Saturday alternately.** | |

| 2025 | Open Fri | Open Sat |
|---|---|---|
| May | 02,09, 23, 30 | 17 |
| June | 13, 27 | 07, 21 |


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# School News in scan

## Rathmichael National School

As Easter approaches we look back on an exciting few weeks of school, starting with

**Seachtain na Gaeilge:**
Seachtain na Gaeilge a bhí ann i Ráth Mhicíl. Ghlac gach duine páirt i ndamhsa Gaelach, Tráth na gceist agus ceacht STEM. Bhí comortás 'raffle' ar siul i rith na seachtaine d'uibheacha seacláide! Bhuaigh muid ticéid nuair a rinne muid iarracht Gaeilge a labhairt. Bhí 'Siopa Milseain' i rang a cúig ar an Cheadaoin. D'úsáideamar ár nGaeilge chun rudaí a cheannach. Faoi dheireadh, bhí Lá Glás ar an Aoine. Chaith gach duine éadaí glása! Bhaineamar an-taitneamh as an seachtain.

We were treated to two amazing shows in April. 1st Class performed "Pirates versus Mermaids" while 5th Class undertook "The Grunch Musical". Both of the productions were superb with incredible talent on show. Both classes worked so hard and everyone's performance was fantastic. We are so proud of all of them. Huge thanks to Naomi and the class teachers for all their incredible work.

We also responded to our Student Council's request for a school wide talent show, so "Rathmichael's Got Talent" was born. Children performed for their classmates for the opportunity to represent their class at our Friday Assembly. All the children chosen performed exceptionally well and it just proves that Rathmichael indeed Has Talent! Thanks to all the children for taking part. Congratulations also to Aaron and Ben in 2nd Class who achieved honours in their recent Royal Irish Academy of Music piano exams.

On the sporting front, huge congratulations to the Boy's Hockey squad for making it to the Finals of the Leinster Schoolboys League (Primary), which took place during March against St. Andrew's Preps. They played brilliantly, unfortunately losing 3-2 but they should feel very proud of themselves, as we are of them, as they gave their all for the whole match. We are equally proud of our mixed hockey team who played so well to get to the Finals of the Catherine Stewart Memorial Trophy. They were unlucky to again come up against St. Andrew's Preps in the Final. They lost but put up a wonderful fight. Our Football Team has played two league matches to date being successful in both and our 6th Class Footballers recently played in the Dublin Finals of the FAI Primary Schools' Competition, coming third and being highly praised by the referees for their footballing skills.

Our 6th Class pupils were delighted to receive copies of the book "Paper Dragons, The Fight of the Hidden Realm" as part of the Enterprise ROAD Forward initiative.

**Naomi Rousseau**
*(Principal)*

# *Update from...*

## Cormac Devlin TD

I hope you are all keeping well and enjoying the beautiful weather we've been experiencing.

Nationally, we have been focused on dealing with the impact of trade tariffs and the effect they might have on the economy and jobs. You will be aware that many multinational companies are based in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown, including Microsoft, Amgen, and B&D, to name but a few. It is critical that this issue is resolved so that trade can continue and jobs are protected.

**Launch of Buddy's Place, Shankill**
It was wonderful to join Miriam O'Callaghan and Minister Kieran O'Donnell for the official launch of Buddy's Place—a new, first-of-its-kind community café, created by and for people living with dementia at St Joseph's Dementia Care Home, Crinken Lane, Shankill.

Well done to all the excellent staff and committed volunteers of the service. For more information, please contact the superb, dedicated, and caring staff at St Joseph's on (01) 282 3000.

The Government intends to support the rollout of these innovative community cafés around the country.

**Expansion of the Hot School Meals Programme**
Some great news for families in Shankill and across Dún Laoghaire: the Hot School Meals Programme has been expanded to Rathmichael National School, Scoil Mhuire Shankill, and Cherrywood Educate Together National School.

This is part of a wider expansion bringing hot, nutritious meals to 713 more primary schools—reaching 475,000 children across 2,850 schools. All schools will be able to access the scheme from September.

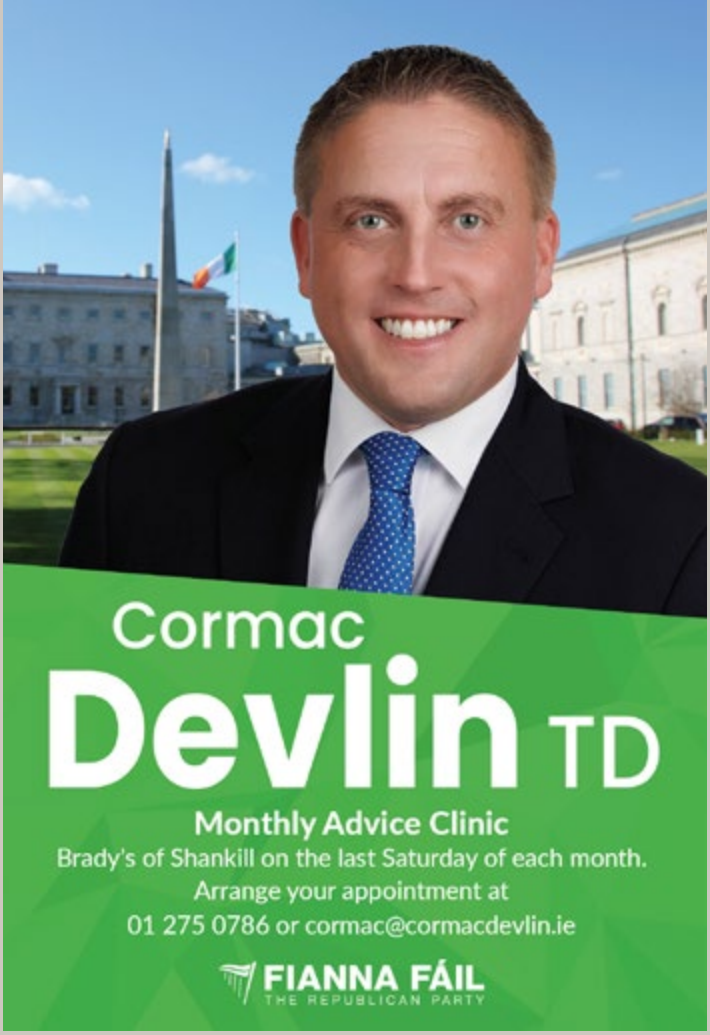
Minister Dara Calleary also confirmed a new focus on nutrition, with high-sugar, salt, and fat foods being phased out by September 2025.

**Community Safety Fund 2025 Now Open for Applications**
Minister for Justice Jim O'Callaghan has launched the 2025 Community Safety Fund, with €4 million available for projects enhancing community safety. Funded by the proceeds of crime seized by CAB and An Garda Síochána, this year's allocation doubles the initial 2022 amount. Grants range from €20,000 to €150,000.

Applications are open from Monday, 7th April to Friday, 16th May at 5pm. Eligible applicants include community groups, local authority partnerships, NGOs, and social enterprises. Innovative proposals will receive special consideration. Full details and application forms are available at www.gov.ie/communitysafety.

**Jobseeker's Pay-Related Benefit**
A new Jobseeker's Pay-Related Benefit scheme has been established, replacing Jobseeker's Benefit for fully unemployed workers with sufficient PRSI contributions.

The scheme offers up to €450 per week based on previous earnings. Payments are tiered over time and linked to employment history, with a minimum rate of €125.




The scheme applies to people made unemployed or redundant from 31 March 2025 onward. Applications must be submitted within six weeks of becoming unemployed. Apply at MyWelfare.ie or through your local Intreo Centre. More info: gov.ie/JPRB.

**Keeping in Touch**
My monthly Advice Clinic takes place in Brady's of Shankill on the last Saturday of each month (except Bank Holidays). Please give me a call on **01 275 0786** or email ***cormac@cormacdevlin.ie*** to arrange an appointment or if I can be of any assistance.
Cormac Devlin TD

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Mobile:086 251 0803
Office: 01 282 0559
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# School News in scan

## Push and Pull!

In science, 2nd class has been learning about Forces. We learned that when force moves an object away from something, that is a push and when force brings an object closer, that is a pull. We then decided to investigate this further and make our own toys using a push or pull force. We made puppets, catapults and more using recyclable materials. The children worked really well together and really enjoyed their creations.

## Seachtain na Gaeilge:

We had a fantastic week of celebrating the Irish language and culture in March. We had a céilí, tráth na gceist, cluichí teanga and we had a wonderful visitor who showed us lots of traditional Irish instruments.

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## 5th Class' Trip to Dáil Éireann:

Our two 5th Classes were welcomed to the Dáil by local politician Barry Ward TD. The classes thoroughly enjoyed their tour around the historic building.

## Junior Infants Gymnastics Display

Ms. O'Connor's class welcomed their parents into Scoil Mhuire recently to put on a gymnastics display! Everyone was very impressed with their skills, as I'm sure you'd agree!

## Girls & Boys GAA Blitz:

Our GAA teams from 5th & 6th Class completed in a blitz on two Tuesdays in March, playing against the other local schools at Stonebridge. Our Boys' team were narrowly defeated while our Girls' team won their blitz! Everyone enjoyed the days and great teamwork was shown on and off the pitch.

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# School News in scan

## St Anne's National School

We recently had a lovely assembly where some children in our school spoke about how they donated their hair for charity. Last month John and Esmée featured on the front of SCAN. Their kindness inspired Esmée's cousin Eve to cut her hair too.

We are very proud of Esmée, John and Eve. What a lovely thing to do.

It was recently World Poetry Day and we held our poetry competition for the second year in a row. There was an amazing amount of incredible poems but we will share a few winning poems. We hope you enjoy them.

**NATURALLY MADE**
*By Matthew Millar in 2nd class*

I live in a tree,
My family and me,
There is a rabbit,
With a weird habit,
A river that makes me shiver,
There is a mole,
In a hole,
High in the sky,
No need to cry,
Look what God gave us all,
Earth,
Which is wide and tall.

**THE BEST DAY**
*By Leah McNally in 4th class*
Today was the best day I ever had,
Because 20 people came in the car with me and dad,
Meanwhile Mum had to handle the other 30.
The operation was very dirty!
When we came back home it was all very cramped,
Then someone called out: Let's have a laugh about!
So we told or favourite jokes and riddles,
And Laughed to the ones we didn't know.
Then someone said: Let's have a read aloud.
So we read our favourite books and stories and we learned so much!
Then someone said they needed a hug, so I suggested we had a hug around.
We went around the room hugging everyone we knew,
Giving extra big hugs to the ones we loved.
Then we played some ball games,
Most people played football, basketball and hockey.
Then I noticed some people doing flips in the corner,
Then I thought lets go inside and get a little warmer,
Then we had a sing song and sang our favourite songs.
But the neighbors had come in to complain.
But they could join the fun I did explain.
And then I got out the board games and people played snakes and ladders,
chess, monopoly and everyone had so much fun.
At the end of the day we all had cake,
Because we were hungry after all the fun we had,
When everyone left,
I said to Mum and Dad,
This really was the best day I ever had!

**FIRST YEAR**
*By Morgan Jones in 6th class*
As Summer fades and Autumn comes near,
There is a place to fear,
A place you've been waiting to go your whole life,
Suddenly it becomes a big fright.

New faces and teachers,
The unknown ahead,
What If I stumble?
What if I dread?

The weight of expectations,
A heavy load,
With projects,
And tests,
A winding road.
Can I rise to the challenge?
Meet every demand?
Or will I feel lost? Like a leaf in the sand?

Past the worries and the fear,
A new start is almost here.
First year, a scary place.
But something I can definitely face!

## Goal workshop.

By Alex & Hazel.
We have some exciting news in Saint Anne's. A charity called Goal has gone out of its way to come and tell each class in our school about food!

## Senior Infants:

Senior Infants were learning about bananas and crops and how they get shipped to Ireland. They also learned that there are many stages to this and it all starts with a seed in the ground.

## 3rd class:

3rd class were learning about Uganda. They learned a song. Most people speak English in Uganda which they found interesting. They also grow potatoes like we do in Ireland.

## 5th class:

Fifth class was learning about Uganda and the differences between Uganda and Ireland. In Ireland we have a population of 5 million and in Uganda they have 48.6 million people. We learned about what foods come from Uganda also.

# Ask a Councillor

## Cllr. Carrie Smyth

**PRE-DRAFT CONSULTATION - RATHMICHAEL LOCAL AREA PLAN**

DLR has commenced the process of preparing a Local Area Plan for Rathmichael. The Pre-Draft Consultation phase will run until Friday the 9th of May 2025. All information including issues papers and maps on the Pre-Draft Consultation can be found on the DLR website at the following link: ***https://www.dlrcoco.ie/Rathmichael***

Submissions and observations on the Pre-Draft Consultation may be made before Friday the 9th of May.

**LARGE CONCRETE BLOCKS – SHANGANAGH ROAD**

I received the following update from Council's Roads Department:

*"One of our roads engineers has forwarded this matter to Economic Development. He would prefer not to move the blocks they have installed, as they are used to restrict illegal parking, but has contacted us to see if they might fit in with the DLR Anseo street art project and could perhaps be painted to make them look more aesthetically pleasing.*

*We can bring this to the Anseo project team and see what they can propose for these blocks.*

*I will be in touch in due course if they can be included in the scheme."*

**DOUBLE YELLOW LINES - CRINKEN LANE, SHANKILL**

***Question:*** To ask the Chief Executive if there are plans for double yellow lines to be installed on Crinken Lane in the vicinity of the junctions at Crinken Glen, Dublin Road and St. Joseph's?

***Reply:*** The installation of double yellow lines at the location detailed in the question was discussed at a recent meeting of the Traffic Advisory Group, with the result being that double lines at the location were deemed to be not warranted.

**QUINN'S ROAD - REDUCE SPEEDING BY MOTORISTS**

***Question:*** To ask if the Chief Executive agrees it would be desirable to examine the stretch of road at Quinn's Road from before the DART Line to the right angle bend on the corner of Shankill Bowling Club and Shankill Tennis Club and carry out works to reduce speeding by motorists?

***Reply:*** The stretch of carriageway from the DART Bridge to the Tennis Club on Quinn's Road is currently under review and subject to an assessment by the Council's Traffic & Road Safety Section.

**ALL WEATHER PITCH - WOODBROOK COLLEGE, BRAY**

***Question:*** To ask the Chief Executive to report on the commencement of the All-Weather Pitch at Woodbrook College, Bray and include the timeframe?

***Reply:*** Currently the timeframe is unknown for the commencement of this project for a number of reasons which include; a new school and timeframes around the planning and construction of same, biodiversity constraints, archaeology constraints, existing woodland constraints, etc. A feasibility study is currently on-going and there is on-going engagement with the school principal.

**Dublin Array Offshore Wind Farm - Project Update - Planning Permission**

We received the following update from the Communications Department at RWE Renewables Ireland:

*"I would like to take this opportunity to notify you of a significant project delivery update for the Dublin Array offshore wind farm project.*

*The Dublin Array project will be submitting a planning application to An Bord Pleanála (ABP) in the coming days. The application will be available for inspection at the offices of An Bord Pleanála, Wicklow County Council and Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council for an eight-week period commencing on Monday the 10th of March.*

*As per the statutory guidelines public notices have been published in the Irish Independent, Wicklow People and Dublin Gazette South Edition. Additionally, we would like to inform you that site notices will be erected at specified locations.*

*Following the submission of the planning application to An Bord Pleanála (ABP), all documentation will be viewable and available for download on the following website: www.dublinarray-marineplanning.ie.*

*Submissions or observations on the planning application must be received by An Bord Pleanála no later than 5.30pm on Wednesday the 7th of May 2025."*

# Shankill Classical Music Club

**Shostakovich and more**

*Dimitri Shostakovich 1906-1975*

Is it really fifty years since Dmitri Shostakovich, the best-known Russian composer of the twentieth century, died, in the stagnating Brezhnev-era Soviet world with which he had a famously troubled relationship? Concert promoters around Dublin have certainly taken note of the anniversary recently. His music has always been popular at our club. Over the years we've heard some of the symphonies, concertos, string quartets, piano music, ballet music, film music etc. To launch her presentation at the April meeting, Sheila Thomson chose the limpid and untroubled slow movement from the second piano concerto, in a famous recording where Leonard Bernstein conducted as well as taking the solo part.

The English musician John Rutter, soon to be eighty, is best known for composing and conducting vocal music, especially religious-themed choral pieces and Christmas music. His instrumental music is much less known, so his Variations on an Easter Theme for organ duet (a tight squeeze in the organ loft!) was an unusual treat. And then we plunged back to 16th century Italy for two contrasting songs, with the small vocal group The King's Singers backed by the instrumental consort Tragicomedia. Perhaps it's as well that the language is foreign to most of us: while the text of first was a fairly conventional sighing for love, the second one takes a (humorous!) cut at (in translation) "Nasty old women, good for nothing except to yap-yap-yap in the plaza ...").

The remainder of this half of the evening featured more familiar composers: a movement from Brahms's second symphony; a short little-known piece for cello and piano by Grieg; and finally the overture to Beethoven's only opera, Fidelio.

Some more of members' choice list made up the second half. The longest piece was the last of the four ballades of Frederic Chopin, recorded in 2003 by the then-young Polish pianist Piotr Anderszewski. Almost eighty years earlier, just when the older acoustic-based recording system was being replaced by the new-fangled electrical system, the great Austrian violinist Fritz Kreisler, at the peak of his powers, recorded the evergreen first violin concerto by Max Bruch. His fresh tone and surprisingly modern playing style in the popular slow movement emerged clearly from the murk of surface noise and primitive orchestral balance.

The only Irish connection in the evening was the appearance of the guitarist John Feeley in an atmospheric piece, the Capricho Arabe, by the Spaniard Francisco Tarrega. One of the best-known duets from mainstream opera, the Flower Duet from Lakmé by Delibes, featured Joan Sutherland and Jane Berbié in a 1960s recording. And the evening ended with a selection of ballet music: firstly a couple of movements from Giselle by Adolphe Adam, and then, with a few minutes left on the clock, a couple from Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker.

*The next meetings will be on Wed 14 May and Wed 11 June. Usual time and place: 7:45 in Shankill Day Centre, Lower Road, Shankill Visitors and new members are always welcome. For further info please ring or text John O'Hagan (087-210 9175).*

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# Ask a Councillor

## Cllr. Jim Gildea

### BUS CONNECTS BRAY TO CITY CENTRE

As I'm sure the vast majority of readers will be aware, An Bord Pleanála (ABP) granted permission to the NTA at the end of January to deliver this project with no meaningful modifications. All the points made by the Transport Economist we engaged to prepare an expert report for us were ignored as were the points made by many individuals in our community. In conjunction with Shankill Tidy Towns and a number of community leaders and having taken advice from a firm of Solicitors and a Barrister who are recognised experts in this area of planning law we decided to seek a judicial review of ABPs decision as we felt several important points were overlooked by the board. An application will be lodged with the High Court seeking a review of the decision. At the time of preparing this article for SCAN in early April, I have no further information on the request. I will provide an update in next month's SCAN.

High Court proceedings are expensive, so we have started a fund-raising campaign to raise the necessary funds. Thanks to the generosity of people in the community we have raised about half the money we need for the campaign as of early April. I hope by the time this article is published we will have reached our target. It is important to point out that if we win our case all our expenses will be recovered and returned to the donors. I believe a link to the iDonate website is published elsewhere in SCAN.

### SHANGANAGH PARK FLOODING

***Motion:*** "That the Chief Executive takes the necessary measures to ensure that the footpath in Shanganagh Park which runs parallel to the access road to Shanganagh Cemetery is raised sufficiently to prevent flooding during moderate and heavy rainfall. It is noted that this path is prone to flooding for several years and despite numerous promises to have the problem resolved no action has been taken to date."

***Report:*** This drainage issue was looked into a number of years ago and improved drainage into an adjoining natural ditch within the woodland was carried out at the time to alleviate the problem. It appears that rising ground water levels in the area are contributing to the flooding of the path. This matter will be examined on site and remedial works undertaken to correct the flooding issue. A combination of raising of path levels and additional drainage works may be required at this stage.

### SHANGANAGH PARK PLAYGROUND.

***Question:*** To ask the Chief Executive if there are plans to have an ability swing installed in the playground at Shanganagh Park Shankill?

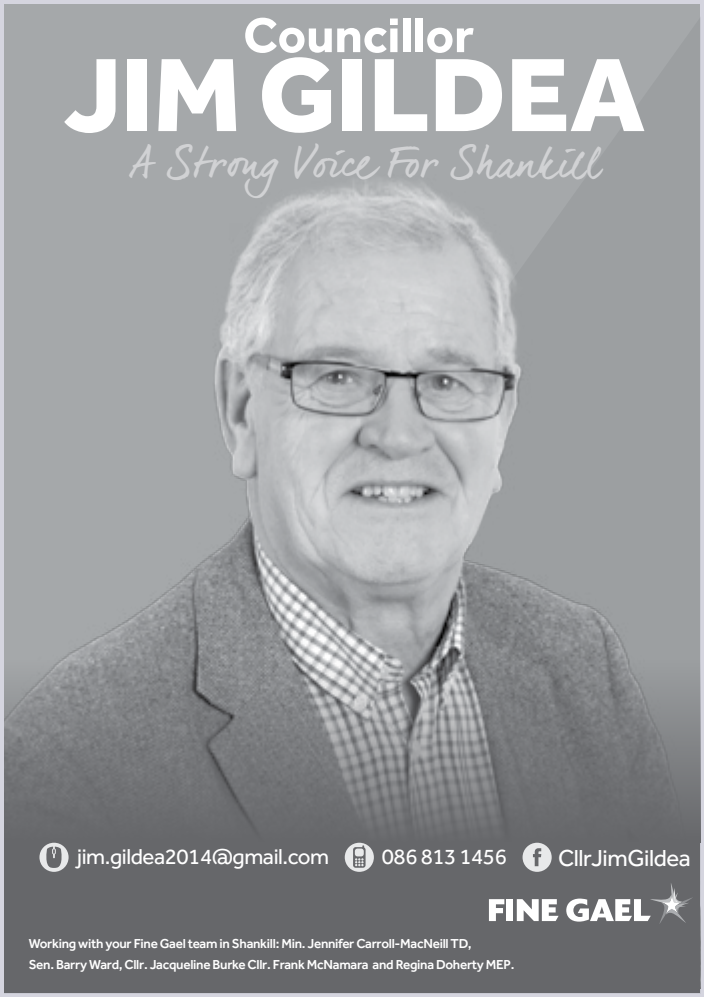
***Reply:*** Shanganagh Park Playground currently has the following variety of swings.

- 1 Pendulum swing
- 2 Junior Cradle seats
- 1 hammock
- 2 standard swing seats
- 1 Basket swing

The latter two play items are designed as inclusive swings. There are no current proposals to install an ability swing in Shanganagh Park, similar to the one provided at Kilbogget Park.

### SHANGANAGH CEMETERY MAINTENANCE

***Motion:*** That the Chief Executive takes steps to have maintenance works carried out within Shanganagh Cemetery, Shankill including the removal of litter from the hedgerows surrounding the cemetery, the removal of encroaching vegetation from the footpaths and the repair/replacement of the temporary footpath surfaces at the eastern side of the cemetery.


Councillor
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FINE GAEL
Working with your Fine Gael team in Shankill: Min. Jennifer Carroll-MacNeill TD,
Sen. Barry Ward, Cllr. Jacqueline Burke Cllr. Frank McNamara and Regina Doherty MEP.

***Report:*** The repair/replacement of the temporary footpath surfaces at the eastern side of Shanganagh Cemetery, Shankill has been completed. The removal of litter from the hedgerows surrounding the cemetery has been completed and will be checked and cleared on a more regular basis. The removal of encroaching vegetation from the footpaths will be carried out on a phased basis over the next number of months.

### FERNDALE ROAD SHANKILL

***Motion:*** That this Committee recommends that the Chief Executive investigate the need for the installation of "School Ahead" traffic signs and 'Caution Children' road markings on the approaches to the John Scottus schools on Ferndale Road, Shankill and to report back to this Committee at our April '25 meeting.

***Report:*** The Traffic & Road Safety Section of the Council have initiated works that will result in the installation of appropriate "School Ahead" traffic signage on Ferndale Road along with appropriate road markings on the approaches to the John Scottus Schools.

### DANGEROUS BENDS ON FERNDALE ROAD

***Question:*** To ask the Chief Executive if there are plans for 'Slow' or 'Dangerous Bends Ahead' road markings to be installed on the approaches to the bends near the Old Connaught end, and at the Quarry Road junction on Ferndale Road while the road is closed for works by Uisce Éireann during April 2025?

***Reply:*** The Council's Traffic and Road Safety will assess the location (qtr. 3 2025) mentioned in the question to assess the requirement for the installation of "Slow" "Bends Ahead" or similar. Line Marking works are generally carried out during nighttime hours. Therefore, the benefit in co-ordinating the line marking with the proposed road closure is limited.
Despite the reply above the Senior Executive Engineer, Traffic & Road Safety Section, agreed with me that he will endeavour to do the work while the road is closed for the Uisce Eireann works.

**Shankill is home**
It feels [early April], that summer has arrived, the bees are busy the blossom is beginning to open and the leaves are starting to appear. A time of year to enjoy the birdsong and all the biodiversity we have at our front doors in Shankill. A while ago we had a visitor from London who brought a drone. He sent it up for a few minutes so he could get an idea of what Shankill was like. He was in shock when he found he could see virtually no houses because of all the trees we have. How much longer with the desecration being proposed by the BusConnects plans? Improved bus services are vitally important given all the building in and around Shankill and the need for far more people to leave their cars at home and commute by public transport if we are to reduce the huge fines which are coming our way by 2030 because of our abject failure to reduce our production of Climate warming gases. The likely figure seems to be between €8 and €20 billion. It is obvious that car use is rising rather than reducing. This is an area where virtually everyone of us can make a difference by thinking carefully and using public transport whenever possible.

**Where are we going? A chance to change direction?**
There is, at the moment, great anxiety about the tariffs that President Trump has imposed on the world. However, there might be a good side to what looks like the start of world recession. We know that it is not possible to continue to increase GDP indefinitely because there are not the resources available to make it possible, particularly when environmental damage is added to the problems. At some point we need to move to a different economic model in which we all have enough but not more than we need. Maybe a world recession, rather like Covid, will show us that a less extravagant lifestyle is perfectly compatible with a happy life. As with Covid a recession would reduce our carbon use, particularly flying and might give us a valuable breathing space to get our act together and take advantage of the forced situation to rethink where we are taking this wonderful Home of ours.

**Fridays For Future**
Fridays for Future is the movement that was started by Greta Thunberg and a group has been meeting outside the Dail every Friday from 1.00 – 2.00pm. They have now reached 330 weeks and counting. Before Covid there were several schools which were represented by groups of students most weeks, sadly, since then students have been few and far between. Similarly, the annual student rallies appear to have stopped. All of this is happening even though Climate Change and biodiversity loss are being covered in various school curricula which might have been expected to generate some response in the world outside school. The problem perhaps is that the changes we experience are occurring in small steps, so that rather like the frog in hot water not noticing that it is coming to the boil until it is too late. We too don't realise that the small changes we experience, season by season are, in truth, part of a trend. For us in Ireland, the changes are small, so far, but elsewhere they can be life threatening: floods, droughts, storms, fires, heatwaves.

When we learn to see all peoples on earth as part of our one family perhaps we will learn to care enough to take real and effective action for the benefit of all. A good starting point would be to push back whenever we become aware of any pressure which has the effect, and in some cases the purpose, of pushing us apart, undermining the togetherness on which society depends. An example of this is social media efforts to generate 'clicks', to gain political advantage and so on. The climate crisis is too serious for such frivolous distractions.

**Wind Farms**
The issue of wind farms is still with us and will be for years to come as Ireland tries to increase its renewable generation at a rate sufficient not only to supply the ever increasing demand from Data Centres, but also to eventually reduce to zero our dependence on fossil fuels. A recent article published by the BBC looks at research around the world and it's clear that installing offshore generation does have an environmental impact, especially from noise during construction. The long term effects are relatively minor, whereas the consequences of climate change are more serious and getting worse. Most of the harmful effects of turbine installation can be limited by proper construction techniques, choice of location and design, such as marking the tips and edges of the turbine blades to make them easily visible to birds. The windfarm can also generate a safe breeding haven for fish. Oil and gas exploration and production are, of course, infinitely worse.

SOFA Shankill Day Care Centre

Registered Charity Number (RCN): 20012410

**ST. CECILIA SINGERS BRING SUNSHINE AND SONG TO SHANKILL DAY CARE CENTRE**

A truly heartwarming afternoon unfolded at Shankill Day Care Centre on Wednesday as we welcomed the wonderful St. Cecilia Singers to perform for our clients. Founded in 1984 by the incredibly dedicated Sandra Ganly, the 20-strong choir has become a beloved part of the Shankill community, and their visit brought joy, nostalgia, and connection to everyone in attendance.

As the choir rehearsed in our sunny courtyard, the sound of their harmonies gently floated through the village, creating a serene and uplifting atmosphere. The sunshine glinted off the windows, birds chirped in the background, and it felt as though the whole village paused for a moment to soak in the beauty of their voices. The courtyard was alive with music, laughter, and the hum of appreciation before the performance even began.

Once inside, the choir treated us to a wonderfully curated programme of songs, ranging from classical choral pieces to well-loved contemporary tunes. Each piece was performed with heart and passion, and it was clear just how much joy the choir found in sharing their music with others. Many of our clients sang along, clapped to the rhythm, or simply closed their eyes to take it all in. The power of live music to spark memories and lift spirits was on full display.

We cannot express enough how grateful we are to the St. Cecilia Singers for sharing their time and talent with us. Their performance was not just entertainment—it was a gift. These moments mean so much to those who attend the Centre, offering, not only joy, but a deep sense of connection.

A special and heartfelt thank you must go to Sandra Ganly, the choir's founder and conductor. Her vision, dedication, and unwavering commitment over the past four decades have not only sustained this wonderful choir but have allowed it to become a beacon of light and music in our community. Sandra's leadership and passion are inspiring, and we are truly honoured that she brought her choir to share such a meaningful experience with us.

The entire afternoon was a celebration of music, community, and care. We look forward to welcoming the St. Cecilia Singers back in the future and continuing this beautiful connection between their voices and the hearts of our clients.

# PLANNING NOTICES

compiled by Cllr. Jim Gildea

*We are aware that some of the notices about planning applications and decisions are out of date by the time you receive your SCAN but we believe our readers would like to know what is going on in their area. We would like to remind you to keep a look out for new planning notices and, if you need further information, go to the Planning Office in Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Hall, Marine Road and request to see the plans.*

*D25B/0128/WEB Seeking Permission Date: 10/03/2025*
**James Maguire and Michelle Park, 25, Castle Farm, Shankill, D18C9Y6**
Permission for conversion of existing attic space comprising modification of existing roof structure, raising of existing gable c/w window, new access stairs, 2 roof windows to the front and flat roof dormer to the rear.

*D25A/0233/WEB Seeking Permission Date: 25/03/2025*
**Charton Homes Limited, Sites 7, 8 & 9, Carpendale, Ferndale Road, Shankill, Dublin 18**
Permission for (A) Change of House Type 2A on Site 7 to part two storey/part single storey dwelling with attached domestic garage, (B) Alterations to the previously approved plans & elevations of House Type 4A on Site 8 and amended siting, (C) Alterations to the previously approved plans & elevations of House Type 3 on Site 9 and amended siting, (D) All ancillary site works. The subject buildings where granted permission under planning application D15A/0403 (extended under extension of duration D15A/0403/E).

*D25B/0172/WEB Seeking Permission Date: 03/04/2025*
**Robert Conan and Sarah Conway, Graigueconna Cottage, Thornhill Road, A98TY43**
Permission sought for alteration and extension of existing house to include: (1) Provision of a new single storey extension to the rear of existing house (2) Provision of a new first floor level and pitched roof (3) Provision of a new front porch, (4) Provision of a new covered outdoor space to side of existing house, (5) Associated alterations to elevations.

## PLANNING DECISIONS

*D25A/0058/WEB Grant Permission Date: 12/03/2025*
**Charton Homes Limited, Sites 1,2 & 5, Carpendale, Ferndale Road, Shankill, Dublin 18**
Permission for (a) alterations to previously approved plans & elevations of House Type 6 on Site 1 and amend the location of previously approved garage, (b) alterations to previously approved plans & elevations of House Type 4 on Site 2, (c) alterations to previously approved plans & elevations of House Type 5 on Site 5, (d) all ancillary site works. The subject buildings were granted permission under planning application D15A/0403 (extended under extension of duration D15A/0403/E).

## APPEALS NOTIFIED BY AN BORD PLEANÁLA

*D24A/1035/WEB 1st Party Appeal against Refusal of Permission Lodged: 21/03/2025*
**Keith Cleary, 103A, Cherrywood Road, Shankill, D18H327**
The development will consist of repositioning the existing vehicular entrance from the front side of the site to the centre and widening the vehicular entrance to 4.25 m along with all associated site works.
Council Decision: Refuse permission

*D25A/0004/WEB 1st & 3rd Party Appeal against Condition(s) Lodged: 25/03/2025*
**John Maybury, The Poplars, Quinns Road, Shankill, D18P6P0**
Permission sought for the following: Demolition of existing 1 storey residential dwelling (c.435.9 sq.m) and removal of existing boundary wall (c. 17 sq.m) along Quinn's Road. Construction of a 1-3 storey residential development comprising 25 units arranged in 2 terrace blocks on the site. The proposed units include 12 X 3 bed townhouses, 8 X 1 bed apartments, 4 X 3 bed duplex apartments and 1 X 2 bed townhouse. All apartment units and houses are provided with private open space in the form of balconies/ terraces and gardens. Provision of 2 site entrance points along Quinn's Road. A proposed pedestrian only entrance point is located at the current site access point for pedestrians/ vehicles, and a new vehicular/ pedestrian access point is provided at the southeastern boundary of the site from Quinn's Road. The development proposes c.616 sq.m of public open space and c. 85 sq.m of communal amenity open space as landscaped areas throughout the site. The proposal includes a biodiversity zone of c. 300 sq.m along the northern site boundary. The proposal includes 17 car parking spaces, 39 cycle parking spaces (27 private, 4 communal for duplex units, 2 cargo bike spaces for duplex units and 6 external visitor spaces), secure bin stores for all units, provision of an ESB kiosk, hard and soft landscaping and all other associated site works and provision of services above and below ground on an overall site area of c. 0.43ha (Net developable site area of 0.40ha excluding biodiversity zone).
Council Decision: Grant permission

## APPEALS DECISION BY AN BORD PLEANÁLA

*D23A/0339 Refuse Permission Date:11/03/2025*
*Council Decision: Refuse permission*
**Maplepond Limited, Saint Annes, Dublin Road, Shankill, D18H9V3**
Residential development on lands known as St. Annes, a protected structure. Construction of 43 residential units in 3 blocks to the north and south of the existing dwelling which will consist of Block A: three storey duplex/townhouse block containing 2 X 2 bed ground level apartments, 2 X three bedroom upper level two storey duplex units and 1 X three storey end of terrace townhouse, all units with private balconies. Block B: three storey block containing 4 X four bedroom three storey terraced houses with private rear gardens. Block C: five storey block with penthouse setback level containing a total of 34 apartments consisting of 8 X one bed, 24 X two bed and 2 X three bed apartments, all units with private balconies with ancillary site works including parking for 42 cars, 2 communal bin stores, 98 secure bicycle parking spaces and relocation of main vehicle access further south along Dublin Road. The site includes an existing protected structure (RPS 1800), a two storey dwelling house known as Saint Annes and this application does not consist of any works to the protected structure.

*D24A/0039 Grant Permission & Refuse Permission Date:12/03/2025*
*Council Decision: Grant permission & refuse permission*
**Knockfodda Enterprises Ltd, Brady's of Shankill, Dublin Road, D18E1W0**
Permission & Retention 1. Retention of planter boxes and pergola with retractable roof and timber screening to external seating area to the side of the existing public house. 2. Permission for the provision of 2no. loading bays to service the existing public house which will include modification of the existing service yard boundary wall and relocation of the existing service yard gates to facilitate the loading bays.

*D24B/0399/WEB Refuse Permission Date:10/03/2025*
*Council Decision: Refuse permission for retention*
**Florin Strimbu, Florence Villa, Commons Road, D18HH1F**
Retention permission for the construction of an ancillary single storey office/storage structure (c. 34.65sqm) with associated rooflight located to the rear of Florence Villa together with all ancillary site works, landscaping and site drainage.

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